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SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 12, 2009 UN SECURITY COUNCIL
CONSULTATIONS ON SOMALIA

(U) 1. USUN may draw upon the talking points in paragraph 2 on the political processes in Somalia and the talking points in paragraph 3 on support to the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) during consultations scheduled for February 12, 2009.

(U) 2. Begin talking points on political processes in Somalia.

- We welcome the election of President Sharif and the expansion of the Transitional Federal Parliament to include members of the Alliance for the Liberation of Somalia (ARS) and encourage all Somalis to renounce violence and engage in the national reconciliation process.

- IF NEEDED: We also welcome the appointment of [redacted] as Prime Minister of Somalia. We wish him good luck in his efforts and urge Somalis and international stakeholders alike to work with him to bring peace and stability to Somalia.

- While most welcome a chance for peace in Somalia, others desire further violence. We condemn al-Shabaab's continuing attacks on AMISOM and its announcement of planned attacks against President Sharif's government.

End talking points on political processes in Somalia.

(U) 3. Begin talking points on support to AMISOM.

- We appreciate the Technical Assessment Mission's (TAM's) report as contained in the Secretary-General's letter of January 31 and its Annex. We are committed to assisting the UN where necessary and appropriate, and of course will carefully consider any requests in this regard.

- As the UN contracts for logistical support, accountability and transparency will be important, but we must remember the situation in Somalia is dynamic and time is of the essence. What can the Secretariat do to expedite its contracting process so that UN assistance can have the most immediate impact on the ground?

- What preparations has the Secretariat made for a trust fund for AMISOM? When do you expect to hold the donors conference anticipated in resolution 1863?

End talking points on support to AMISOM.

CLINTON